

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1180822-3

Total Deleted Page(s) = 71
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Division;
Page 237 ~ Referral/Consult;
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Page 239 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 240 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 241 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 242 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 245 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 246 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 253 ~ Referral/Direct - 100-HQ-354477 Serial 137 / Criminal
Division;
Page 258 ~ Referral/Direct - 100-HQ-354477 Serial 149 / Criminal
Division;

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Sec 5

No classified DOE information per DOE letter dated February 26, 2014

F.B.I. TELETYPE

CONFIDENTIAL

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[DECODED COPY]

WASHINGTON AND WASHINGTON FIELD 5 FROM NEWARK

26 12:56 P AB

DIRECTOR AND SAC

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESP - X. REBUTEL
JANUARY 25 LAST. DR. OPPENHEIMER CONTACTED. HE REQUESTED THAT
INFORMATION CONCERNING GORDON ARNESON NOT BE DISSEMINATED.
AMENDED PAGES OF REPORT OF SA [REDACTED] NEWARK, JANUARY, 13,
1951, WILL CONSIST OF ELIMINATING LAST TWO PARAGRAPHS OF PAGE FIVE.
AMENDED PAGES WILL BE SUBMITTED WITH LETTER OF EXPLANATION.

MCKEE

b6
b7c

NK R 5 WA SMS

RECEIVED: [1-26-51] 1:46 PM

GLA

CC WASHINGTON FIELD

9/25/96
CLASSIFIED BY SP6AC/BB
DECLASSIFY ON: 3

RECORDED - 116
INDEXED - 116

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED
BY LEP/ [REDACTED] REVIEW COMMITTEE
DATE: 2/8/98
APP 91-1786

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

6 FEB 3 1951

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD

1/22/51

5:25 PM

DIRECTOR

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, ETAL; ESP - X.

ADVISED TODAY

HE DESIRES ALL INFO HE HAS FURNISHED

TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. CORRECTED PAGES WILL BE FURNISHED

TO BUREAU PROMPTLY.

HOTTEL

WHM:EL
65-5722

Defense info remains unclassified per
letter 12-26-93 9103 RCO/mer 3/6/93
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/23/89 BY SP8 DJS/108

EX - 83

CORDED - 47

JAN 27 1951

5 FEB 5 1951

No classified DOE information per DOE letter dated February 26, 2014

F.B.I. TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[DECODED COPY] (C)

WASHINGTON 16 FROM NEWARK

[1-25-51]

9-35 PM

DIRECTOR

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE X.
REURTEL TODAY. DISSEMINATION OF REPORT SA [REDACTED]
TO BE WITHHELD PENDING FURTHER INTERVIEW WITH OPPENHEIMER.
HE WILL BE RECONTACTED JANUARY TWENTY SIX AND THE BUREAU
ADVISED IMMEDIATELY.

b6
b7C

MCKEE

9/25/96
CLASSIFIED BY SP6 AG
DECLASSIFY ON 25X3

NK R 16 WA

RECEIVED

[1-25-51] (C)

10:07 PM

VAM

EX - 83

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)
DATE: 7/8/94
SP6 AG/RS
7/5/94

RECORDED - AT

JAN 27 1957

CC - NWAC

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[JANUARY 25, 1957]

SAC, NEWARK

CODE UNDERLINE PORTION

URGENT

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECT; ESPIONAGE - X.

4/ REREF SA [REDACTED] DATED JANUARY THIRTEEN, NINETEEN
FIFTY ONE, AT NEWARK AND URLET OF SAME DATE. URLET POINTS
OUT THAT WHILE DR. OPPENHEIMER DID NOT REQUEST THAT HIS
SUSPICIONS REGARDING GORDON ARNESON BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL,
HE WAS RELUCTANT TO FURNISH ARNESON'S NAME AND REQUESTED
THAT IF ANY INVESTIGATION IS CONDUCTED ON ARNESON THAT IT
BE DONE IN A METHOD WHICH WOULD NOT DISCLOSE THE FACT THAT
HE HAD FURNISHED ARNESON'S NAME TO THE FBI. BUREAU DESIRES
TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION REGARDING ARNESON TO DEPARTMENT
IN VIEW OF NATURE OF INVESTIGATION. NEWARK ADVISE IMMEDIATELY
BY RETURN TELETYPE WHETHER REPORT MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE
DISSEMINATED IN PRESENT FORM OR WHETHER OPPENHEIMER'S IDENTITY
IS TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. IF IDENTITY IS TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL
NEWARK REQUESTED TO FURNISH APPROPRIATE AMENDED PAGES IN ORDER
THAT REPORT MAY BE DISSEMINATED.

b6
b7C

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

DATE: 7/18/96
APP 9/17/98

9/25/96
CLASSIFIED BY SP6 AG/BB
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3

HOOVER

#AA: Jpa

100-354477

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Belmont
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TELETYPE

EX - 83

JAN 25 1957

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 5 1957

5:58 P.M.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 30, 1951

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP, et al
ESPIONAGE - X

3-5-93
9102 R00pen
State info in class. feel Perlt. 8/13/91
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-28-89 BY 0071513/af

Mr. R. GORDON ARNESON, Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary of State, advised this date that Mr. PAUL H. NITZE, Director of Policy Planning Staff, Office of Secretary of State, had some additional information to furnish in this case.

Mr. NITZE, who had previously been interviewed in this matter, and who, investigation developed was a close acquaintance of the ALSOPS, particularly JOSEPH ALSOP, advised that he recently had occasion to visit with JOSEPH ALSOP. NITZE said that their conversation came around to the matter of the ALSOPS publishing classified information, at which point, NITZE took it upon himself to upbraid JOSEPH ALSOP for publishing classified information, in particular referring to the ALSOPS' article, "How Red A-Blast Was Detected".

JOSEPH ALSOP told NITZE that he knew there was considerable to-do regarding the ALSOPS having published that article. He said he regretted the publication of the article, but that his regret was for the reason that the article was merely a re-hash of two previous ALSOP articles. ALSOP explained that on that particular day, the ALSOPS had nothing special to write about and decided that since Senator OWEN BREWSTER had not long before declared that the Soviet Union did not have an atom bomb, it was about time to discredit BREWSTER's statement and to disabuse the public of any idea that the Russians did not have an atomic bomb. Accordingly, JOSEPH ALSOP took information from two prior ALSOP articles, and re-worked it to form the current article.

JOSEPH ALSOP told NITZE that the two prior articles had been published, one about a week ago, the other about six months ago. He said that the one article had been prepared by himself, JOSEPH ALSOP; the other by STEWART ALSOP. JOSEPH ALSOP told NITZE that his source of information for the original article which he wrote was a "highly placed person" in the government, who having legitimate access to the information, passed it on to ALSOP with the justification that he "felt it was information to which the American people were entitled". JOSEPH ALSOP told NITZE that STEWART ALSOP's source for the similar information was likewise a highly placed person in the government who felt it was information to which the American public was entitled. NITZE did not include whether JOSEPH ALSOP's statement should be taken to say that both JOSEPH's and STEWART's source was the same individual or separate individuals but in any event, on a high echelon and having legitimate access to the information.

CWL:cl
65-5722

RECORDED - 40

FEB 1 1951

of the article, declared that the Soviet Union did not have an atomic bomb, it was time to discredit Brewster's statement. Accordingly, Joseph Alsop took information from two prior Alsop articles which were not specifically identified by Joseph Alsop and reworked the material to form the article "How Red A-Blast Was Detected." Joseph Alsop told Mr. Nitze that his source of information for the original article which he wrote was a "highly placed person in government," who having legal access to the information passed it on to Alsop with the justification that he "felt it was information to which the American people were entitled." Joseph Alsop further told Mr. Nitze that Stewart Alsop's source for similar information was likewise a highly placed person in government who felt that the American public was entitled to know the facts which were published.

Joseph Alsop did not indicate whether his source of information and that of his brother, Stewart Alsop, were one and the same individual, nor did he identify the source to which he made reference in his conversation with Mr. Nitze other than to state that the person was highly placed in government and had legal access to the information.

The above is being furnished for your information.

Mr. Peyton Ford
Deputy Attorney General
Director, FBI

February 10, 1951

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

DECLASSIFIED BY 288 BTJ/lof
ON 9-22-79

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent Carl E. Graham dated January 13, 1951, at Washington, D. C., relative to the above-captioned matter, a copy of which was forwarded to you by this Bureau under date of January 22, 1951.

You will note that on page 101 of the above report the results of an interview with Mr. Paul H. Nitze, Director, Policy Planning Staff, Office of the Secretary of State, is set forth.

For your information, Mr. Nitze voluntarily furnished the Bureau with the following additional information under date of January 30, 1951:

Mr. Nitze advised that he recently had occasion to visit Joseph Alsop with whom he has had previous association. During a conversation between Mr. Nitze and Joseph Alsop their conversation came around to the matter of the articles published by the Alsop's which contained classified information, and according to Mr. Nitze he took it upon himself to upbraid Joseph Alsop for publishing classified information, particularly information of the type which appeared in the Alsop's article, "How Red A-Blast Was Detected."

At this point Joseph Alsop advised Mr. Nitze that he regretted the publication of the article, but that his regret was for the reason that the article in question was merely a rehash of two previous articles prepared by the Alsop brothers. Joseph Alsop stated that he was prompted to publish the article due to the fact that he had nothing special to write about and decided that since Senator Owen Brewster had, a short time before the date of the publication

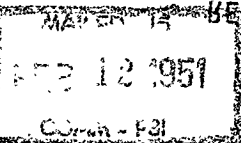
100-354477 - 100

FEB 10 1 25 PM '51

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEB 11 1951

RECEIVED - MAIL ROOM



EX-121

WAA:jpa

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

RECORDED 26

WAA
CIS
KLS
GRT

Mr. Payton Ford
Deputy Attorney General

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP
JOSEPH ALSOP
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

January 31,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

DECLASSIFIED BY 25831128
ON 9/22/89

Reference is made to our letter of January 22, 1951, relative to the above-captioned matter, in which you were advised that detailed reports reflecting the results of interviews with Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, Dr. Robert F. Bacher, Major General D. M. Schlatter and Mr. Carroll Wilson would be furnished to you as soon as they were received at this

There is enclosed herewith for your information copy of each of the following reports:

Report of Special Agent Wade H. Alley dated January 17, 1951, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Report of Special Agent Francis X. McBride dated January 19, 1951, at New Haven.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 18, 1951, at Newark, New Jersey.

Report of Special Agent Arthur G. Wittenburg dated January 15, 1951, at Los Angeles.

The enclosed reports, together with the reports previously forwarded to you under date of January 22, 1951, covers the investigation completed by the Bureau in connection with this matter. You are requested to advise whether further investigation is desired.

Enclosures

FEB 1 5 11 PM '51

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED - CIVIL ROOM

WAA:bar:jus

347
56 FEB 12 1951

MAY 15
FEB - 2 1951

RECORDED 81 FEB 10 1951

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b7C

Tolson
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Nichols
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Racy
Arbo
Almont
Mohr
Tele. Room
Hase
Gandy

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : SAC, WFO
 SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP, et al
 ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: January 20, 1951

Mr. JAMES E. WEBB, Under-Secretary of State, advised in connection with information furnished by him when interviewed in this case, that the State Department, in common with other Government agencies, indulged in what he described as "controlled leaks." By this he indicated that he meant furnishing exclusive information to various newspaper men on occasion, in order to accomplish some desired objective or advantage by a seeming inadvertent disclosure of information.

Mr. WEBB stated confidentially in this connection that Mr. BROMLEY K. SMITH, Special Assistant to the Secretary of State, is the individual who, under WEBB's direction, handles such matters, and the State Department official who handles all confidential contacts with ranking newsmen.

Mr. WEBB suggested that since SMITH specialized in such matters, and is so familiar with the modus operandi of ranking correspondents and columnists, that it might be well for the interviewing Agents to consult SMITH for any information he might have pertaining to this investigation.

Mr. WEBB made it clear that SMITH has had no connection with any disclosure to the ALSOPS in instant matter.

No interview of SMITH is contemplated unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9-28-89 BY 2580 J/1983 R-1

CWL:el
 65-5722

*Refer. here
 action here
 noted opinion
 received from
 A H as to further
 investigation
 W A H*

INDEXED BY
 DESK

RECORDED - 114

100-354777-104
 JAN 22 1951
 14

EX - 29

391

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. RADD

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DATE: February 1

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: JOSEPH ALSOP
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - XPURPOSE:

To recommend that the WFO interview Stewart Alsop in the presence of an attorney even though he has specifically stated if the interview involves his sources we are just wasting our time.

DETAILS:

You will recall that in connection with the investigation of Joseph and Stewart Alsop to determine whether a violation of law exists in connection with certain columns appearing in the newspapers, the Department has specifically requested that Stewart and Joseph Alsop be interviewed.

This afternoon Supervisor Oberndorf of the WFO advised that Stewart Alsop had been called to make an appointment for an interview. He declined to come to the WFO. He stated he could be interviewed in his office but only in the presence of an attorney and that if the Agents wanted to talk to him about his sources they were just wasting their time; they might just as well not come.

It is noted that no effort has been made to interview his brother, Joseph, as yet.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the specific request of the Department that both Stewart and Joseph Alsop be interviewed, it is recommended that they be interviewed in spite of the statements which Stewart has made to the WFO in order that we can comply with the Department request. If you approve, the WFO will be instructed to proceed under the conditions outlined by Stewart Alsop.

CEH:mer

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-28-88 BY 0038

RECORDED

FEB 15 1951

2/14/51
McC. Stein
1-90 ahead
Interviewer

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: February 16, 1951

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP
JOSEPH ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ladd	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harbo	<input type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nease	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

PURPOSE:

To advise you that Mr. Hennrich approved the designation of Special Agents Carl Graham and William Marr to handle the interview of Stewart and Joseph Alsop on February 15.

DETAILS:

By letter dated February 12, 1951, the WFO was instructed to interview Stewart and Joseph Alsop thoroughly. They were further instructed that the assignment should be handled by the most experienced Agents available.

Prior to the interview, Mr. Hennrich inquired of the WFO as to the identities of the Agents who would handle the interviews. He was advised that Special Agents William Marr and Carl Graham had been designated. Mr. Hennrich approved this designation.

SA Carl Graham entered on duty with the Bureau May 5, 1941. His present status is excellent. He received a letter of commendation on December 18, 1950, for the excellent manner in which he handled an assignment relative to the bank robbery involving [] and others.

SA William H. Marr entered on duty with the Bureau October 5, 1942. His present status is excellent. Both of these Agents participated in the investigation of the case involving the Alsop brothers and the case was assigned to SA Graham.

Mr. Hennrich advised me that the matter had been taken up and I was satisfied that the WFO had been properly alerted.

ACTION:

For your information.

CEH:mer:ark

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-23-89 BY 1038/50/08

RECORDED - 77

EX-184

387 289
51 FEB 22 1951

FEB 1951

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b7c

WASHINGTON FROM WASHINGTON FIELD 2/15/51 2 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ATTENTION: MR. D. M. LADD

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNSUB; ESPIONAGE DASH X. RMYTEL FEBRUARY FOURTEENTH LAST. ALSOP BROTHERS INTERVIEWED AS SCHEDULED THIS DATE. AFTER BOTH BROTHERS WERE SPECIFICALLY ADVISED OF THE PURPOSE OF THE INTERVIEW AND OF THE FACT THAT THE INVESTIGATION HAD BEEN CONDUCTED UPON INSTRUCTIONS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, STEWART ALSOP MADE CERTAIN PRELIMINARY REMARKS. HE

ASKED WHEN THE INVESTIGATION WAS INITIATED AND WHO HAD REQUESTED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INITIATE THE INVESTIGATION. HE WAS TOLD THE INVESTIGATION WAS INITIATED SHORTLY AFTER THE APPEARANCE OF THE DECEMBER THIRTY ONE, NINETEEN FIFTY ARTICLE AND THAT INTERVIEWING AGENTS WERE NOT COGNIZANT OF ANY INITIATING AUTHORITY OTHER THAN THE EXPRESS INSTRUCTIONS OF THE

ATTORNEY GENERAL. THE BROTHERS THEN EXPRESSED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE INVESTIGATION SHORTLY AFTER ITS INCEPTION AND FURTHER INDICATED THEY KNEW IT HAD BEEN INITIATED AT THE SPECIFIC REQUEST OF QUOTE ONE MAN ON A VERY HIGH LEVEL UNQUOTE AFTER THE MAN READ THE DECEMBER THIRTY FIRST ARTICLE. THE BROTHERS POINTED OUT THEY FELT THE INVESTIGATION HAD

BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT NOT BECAUSE OF ANY POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF SECURITY BUT BECAUSE OF PERSONAL ANIMOSITY. IN THIS VEIN THEY POINTED OUT THE OCTOBER THIRTEENTH ARTICLE CONTAINED INFORMATION WHICH IN SUBSTANCE HAD PREVIOUSLY

APPEARED IN OTHER NUMEROUS PUBLICATIONS AND NEWS ARTICLES WITHOUT THOSE ARTICLES HAVING AROUSED ANY QUESTION OF A BREACH OF SECURITY BEING INVOLVED. RELATIVE TO THE DECEMBER THIRTY FIRST ARTICLE, THEY LIKEWISE

RECORDED - 67 100-354477-106
INDEXED - 67 FEB 28 1951

59 FEB 28 1951
CEG:BR
65-5722

315
Rpt sent to Dept 2/21/51 WRA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-23-89 BY 888350120

2. Final info is being interviewed

PAGE TWO

POINTED OUT SIMILAR INFORMATION HAD PREVIOUSLY APPEARED IN PUBLIC PRINT ON
NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. FURTHER, IN THEIR OWN COLUMN OVER A YEAR AGO THEY SET
FORTH SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME INFORMATION. JOSEPH ALSOP, WHO CONTRIBUTED
MOST TO THE INTERVIEW, STATED THE DECEMBER THIRTY ONE ARTICLE WAS NOT UP
TO HIS USUAL STANDARDS SINCE IT WAS A REHASH OF ONE OF THE PRIOR ALSOP
ARTICLES AND HE WAS MOTIVATED TO WRITE THIS ARTICLE AFTER SENATOR BREWSTER
MADE THE QUOTE RIDICULOUS UNQUOTE STATEMENT THAT THE RUSSIANS DID NOT
POSSESS THE A BOMB. SO FAR AS THE METHODS OF DETECTION CITED IN THE ARTICLE
ARE CONCERNED, THEY COMMENTED THAT ANY INTELLIGENT HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICS
TEACHER WOULD LOGICALLY MAKE THE SAME CONCLUSIONS. JOSEPH COMMENTED THAT
WELL OVER A YEAR AGO HE HAD LEARNED SUCH INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE DETECTION
OF AN A BLAST FROM AN INTERVIEW WITH A GERMAN SCIENTIST IN GERMANY. WITH
RESPECT TO THE OCTOBER THIRTEENTH ARTICLE, JOSEPH POINTED OUT THAT HIS
PURPOSE WAS TO SHOW THAT LOUIS JOHNSON, THEN SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, WAS
ATTEMPTING TO SOFT PEDAL THE THREAT OF RUSSIAN AGGRESSION DUE TO HIS
PURSUING A POLICY OF AMERICAN DISARMAMENT AND LACK OF PLANNING FOR ADEQUATE
PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND HE FELT THE AMERICAN PUBLIC SHOULD
KNOW WHAT IT IS FACING WITHOUT ADEQUATE DEFENSE. CONCERNING THE SOURCES
OF INFORMATION FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE TWO ARTICLES OF OCTOBER THIRTEEN
AND DECEMBER THIRTY ONE, THE BROTHERS STATED THEY WOULD NOT REVEAL THEIR
SOURCES BUT IN RESPONSE TO A SPECIFIC QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THEY HAD ACCESS
TO CONFIDENTIAL GOVERNMENT PAPERS OR DOCUMENTS, THEY REPLIED MOST
EMPHATICALLY THEY HAD NOT SEEN OR READ ANY CLASSIFIED GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
RELATING TO INSTANT OR ANY OTHER MATTER AND FURTHER STATED THEY HAD ESTABLISHED

PAGE THREE

A POLICY OF STUDIOUSLY AVOIDING AND REFUSING TO OBTAIN OR EVEN LOOK AT SUCH CLASSIFIED MATTER EVEN IF THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED ITSELF. IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER ANY OFFICIAL PERSONAGE HAD FURNISHED THEM ANY INFORMATION SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO THE TWO ARTICLES IN QUESTION, THEY DECLINED TO COMMENT IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER. THE BROTHERS SPOKE OF THE FACT THAT THE INVESTIGATION HAD BEEN A SOURCE OF HARASSMENT AND EMBARRASSMENT TO THEIR MANY FRIENDS AND CONTACTS TO SUCH EXTENT THEY REGRETTED WRITING THE ARTICLES BECAUSE OF THE WAVE OF QUOTE GUILT BY ASSOCIATION WHICH IS SO PREVALENT IN WASHINGTON UNQUOTE. JOSEPH ALSOP COMMENTED HE HAD RECENTLY PREPARED AN ARTICLE DISCUSSING THE NEVADA ATOMIC TESTS DURING THE CURRENT MONTH, WHICH ARTICLE WAS ENTIRELY SPECULATIVE. HE ADVISED AEC OF THE ARTICLE AND WAS TOLD ITS PUBLICATION WOULD BE A BREACH OF SECURITY AND ITS CONTENTS INCLUDED RESTRICTED INFORMATION. ALSOP INDICATED SUCH AN ATTITUDE IS FOOLISH SINCE ANY INTELLIGENT PERSON COULD HAVE DRAWN THE SAME CONCLUSIONS BUT STATED HE HAD DESTROYED THE ARTICLE RATHER THAN RISK ANOTHER SIMILAR INVESTIGATION WITH ITS ACCOMPANYING HARASSMENT AND EMBARRASSMENT. AT THE OUTSET OF THE INTERVIEW, THE BROTHERS, WHO HAD NO ATTORNEY PRESENT, WERE COLDLY CORDIAL BUT AS THE INTERVIEW PROGRESSED THEY WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS THE ARTICLES FREELY EXCEPT THEY WOULD NOT COMMENT AT ALL CONCERNING THEIR SOURCES, DESCRIBING SUCH DISCUSSION AS QUOTE ABSOLUTELY OUT OF THE QUESTION UNQUOTE. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, WHICH LASTED APPROXIMATELY FORTY MINUTES AND

who was he?

d.

PAGE FOUR

WHICH WAS TERMINATED BY AGENTS, THE BROTHERS VOLUNTEERED THAT AT ANY TIME
IN THE FUTURE THEY WOULD COOPERATE WITH THIS BUREAU IN ANY MATTER WHERE THEY
COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE.

STEIN

CWS

*Their cooperation has always
been life service.*

L.

10-19-62 S. 11-11-67

SECRET

cc Mr. Belmont

WASHINGTON FROM WASHINGTON FIELD 2/14/51 10:30AM

DIRECTOR URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE - X. REBULET
FEBRUARY TWELVE, NINETEEN FIFTY ONE. ALSO REFERENCE TELEPHONE CALL
FEBRUARY THIRTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY ONE, WFO TO BUREAU. WHEN CONTACTED
TELEPHONICALLY AT THREE THIRTY P.M. FEBRUARY THIRTEEN FOR PURPOSE OF
ARRANGING AN INTERVIEW, STEWART ALSOP ADVISED HE WOULD NOT CONSENT TO
INTERVIEW WITH BUREAU AGENTS UNLESS IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS LEGAL
COUNSEL; ALSO RELATED HE COULD NOT DISCLOSE SOURCE OF ANY INFORMATION
APPEARING IN ALSOP COLUMNS. NO FURTHER ACTION BEING TAKEN PENDING
RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE BUREAU.

STEIN

cew

*2/14/51
Sac Stein
instructed by
R.H. to prepare
with interview
See memo 2/17/51
Tel. mem. to head WAA*

HANDLED BY
EX-108 DSK

CEG:BR
65-5722

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/22/88 BY 208351212

RECORDED - 77
EX-84

FEB 15 1951

59 FEB 27 1951

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON FROM WASHINGTON FIELD 2/14/51 4:15PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

STEWART ALSOP, JOSEPH ALSOP, UNKNOWN SUBJECT, ESPIONAGE DASH X. RE

BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL THIS DATE INSTRUCTING THIS OFFICE TO PROCEED

WITH INTERVIEW. ALSOP BROTHERS WILL BE INTERVIEWED AT TWO SEVEN

TWO NAUGHT DUNBARTON AVENUE, N. W., AT TEN THIRTY A. M. FEBRUARY FIFTEEN

INSTANT BY SPECIAL AGENTS C. E. GRAHAM AND W. H. MARR OF THIS OFFICE.

STEIN

CWSW

CC - [unclear]

TAA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-29-89 BY SP2 BTJ/ab

ILWRO:BR
65-5722

RECORDED - 77

100-354477-11
FEB 16 1951

100-354477-11
84

59 FEB 27 1951

FD-72
(1-10-49)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON FIELD

WFO FILE NO. 65-5722

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 2/20/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/13-15, 19/51	REPORT MADE BY CARL E. GRAHAM
TITLE STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECT			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - X

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

When interviewed 2/15/51, STEWART and JOSEPH ALSOP declined to furnish identity of source, or sources, of information which they used for news columns - "THE KREMLIN'S GROWING STOCKPILE", published 10/13/50 and "HOW RED A-BLAST WAS DETECTED", which appeared in newspapers 12/31/50. ALSOP brothers expressed that to mention sources would be "absolutely out of the question." JOSEPH ALSOP, who contributed the most to the interview, referred to articles on Kremlin's stockpile, and said that column prepared to show LOUIS JOHNSON - then Secretary of Defense - was attempting to soft pedal threat of Russian aggression, and ALSOP felt American public should know what it is facing without adequate defense. ALSOP further stated second article, dealing with detection of Russian A-Blast, was written primarily to refute Senator BREWSTER, who had made a "ridiculous" statement that Russia did not possess the A-Bomb. The ALSOP brothers stated they had not seen, or had access to, any confidential papers or documents in order to write news articles; however, they declined to comment as to whether they had been furnished the necessary data by any official personage.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-23-81 BY 883510/af

HANDLED BY

STOCK DESK 3-1 a

AGENCY CALIF. 4-27-53
REC. FROM 4-27-53
4-28-53
WFOB/7425

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

5 - BUREAU

5 - WASHINGTON FIELD

(100-354477)

FEB 21 1951

337 23

INDEXED - 122
RECORDED - 122

EX-2

PROPERTY OF FBI - This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the
FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

WFO 65-5722

D E T A I L S
D

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On February 15, 1951, STEWART and JOSEPH ALSOP were interviewed by Special Agent WILLIAM H. MARR and the writer at the ALSOPS' Office and residence of JOSEPH ALSOP - 2720 Dumbarton Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

At the outset of the interview, the ALSOP brothers were advised specifically that the purpose of the interview was in connection with an investigation being conducted at the direction of the Attorney General with a view of ascertaining the source, or sources, of information which had been contained in the two ALSOP columns. The columns were referred to as:

1) "THE KREMLIN'S GROWING STOCKPILE"

which appeared in "THE WASHINGTON POST",
under date of October 13, 1950, and

2) "HOW RED A-BLAST WAS DETECTED"

which appeared in the same local news-
paper under date of December 31, 1950.

The brothers expressed their knowledge of the existence of an investigation shortly after its inception, and further remarked they knew the investigation had been initiated at the specific request of "one man on a very high level", after the "man" had read the December 31st news article concerning detection of the atomic blast in Russia. The ALSOP brothers pointed out they felt the investigation had been brought about, not because of any possible violation of security, but because of personal animosity aimed against them. In this vein, JOSEPH ALSOP pointed out that the October 13th article concerning "THE KREMLIN'S GROWING STOCKPILE" contained information which, in substance, previously had appeared in numerous other publications and news articles, while, at the same time, those articles had not aroused any question that a breach of security had been involved.

Likewise, concerning the December 31st news article, the ALSOP brothers pointed out that similar information concerning detection of the Russian atomic blast previously had appeared in public print on numerous occasions. Specific reference in this regard was made by the ALSOP brothers to news articles, which had appeared in "LIFE" and "TIME" Magazines shortly after President TRUMAN had made public the announcement that Russia was known to have detonated an atomic explosion.

As a matter of fact, stated JOSEPH ALSOP, in the ALSOPS' own column over a year ago, they had set forth substantially the same information, and, on that occasion, the column had elicited no official reaction to indicate there had been any breach of security on the part of the ALSOPS' column.

JOSEPH ALSOP again referred to the December 31st article on the detection of the Russian atomic blast, and stated that that article had not been up to his usual standards since, in its entirety, it was a rehash of one of the prior ALSOP columns. He stated that, in preparation of the December 31st article, he had been motivated to rehash the information contained in the article after Senator BREWSTER had made the "ridiculous" statement that the Russians did not possess the atomic bomb. He continued that, so far as the methods of detection cited in the article were concerned, such information, or conclusions as those contained in the article, could have been arrived at, or concluded, by any intelligent high school physics teacher. He went on to state that, well over a year ago, he had learned such information as to the detection of an atomic blast from an interview with a German scientist in Germany.

JOSEPH ALSOP went on to state that, concerning the October 13th article, his purpose in preparing this news publication was to show that LOUIS JOHNSON - then Secretary of Defense - had been pursuing a policy of attempting to soft pedal the threats of Russian aggression, and that JOHNSON had been pursuing a policy of American disarmament, and, at the same time, had not been planning for adequate protection of the American people. ALSOP stated that his feeling in the matter was that the American public should know what it is facing without adequate defense preparation.

WFO 65-5722

Concerning the sources of information for the preparation of the two articles of October 13 and December 31, 1950, the ALSOP brothers stated they would not reveal their sources, and that any inquiry along those lines would be "absolutely out of the question."

In response to a specific question as to whether they had access to confidential government papers or documents, the brothers most emphatically stated they had not seen, or read, any classified government documents, papers or reports relating to instant, or any other, matter, and, in addition, JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP went on to relate that, some two years or more previously, they had established a policy of studiously avoiding and refusing to obtain, or even look at, such classified matters even though the opportunity might present itself.

In response to a specific question as to whether any official personage had furnished them any information specifically related to the newspaper articles in question, both STEWART and JOSEPH ALSOP advised they could not comment on that question in any manner whatsoever.

The ALSOP brothers stated that the investigation concerning the source of material for their October and December newspaper articles in question had been a source of considerable embarrassment and harassment to their many friends and contacts to such an extent that they had sincerely regretted having written the articles because of the wave of "guilt by association" which is so prevalent in Washington.

JOSEPH ALSOP then stated that he recently had prepared a newspaper article discussing the Nevada atomic bomb tests during the current month, and he stated the article was entirely speculative. He stated that, after its preparation, he had submitted the article to the Atomic Energy Commission for approval and publication, and he stated he was told that the publication of his article would be a breach of security as its contents included restricted information.

WFO 65-5722

JOSEPH ALSOP stated he considered such an attitude on the part of government officials was a foolish attitude inasmuch as he felt any intelligent person could have drawn the same conclusions concerning the recent atomic bomb tests in Nevada. However, ALSOP stated he had destroyed the news article rather than risk another similar investigation, with its accompanying harassment and embarrassment.

- C L O S E D -

WFO 65-5722

- A D M I N I S T R A T I V E P A G E -

Instant interview with the ALSOP brothers was conducted after prior arrangements for same had been effected on February 14, 1951; a meeting scheduled for 10:30 AM, Thursday - February 15, 1951.

At the outset of the interview, following the introduction of the Agents, the ALSOP brothers, who were not accompanied by their Attorney, appeared to be coldly cordial.

After the brothers were specifically advised of the purpose of the interview, STEWART ALSOP made certain preliminary remarks. He asked when the investigation had been initiated, and who had requested the Attorney General to institute the investigation.

In response, the ALSOP brothers were advised that the investigation had been initiated as a result of the appearance of the December 31, 1950, article - "HOW RED A-BLAST WAS DETECTED", and that the interviewing Agents were not cognizant of any initiating authority, other than the express instructions of the Attorney General.

The interview with the ALSOP brothers lasted approximately forty minutes, and it was terminated by Bureau Agents.

At the conclusion of the interview, the ALSOP brothers volunteered that, at any time in the future they would be glad to cooperate with this Bureau in any matter where they could be of assistance.

It is noted instant report is being submitted in a "CLOSED" Status, and any additional investigation deemed necessary will be conducted at the specific direction of the Bureau.

REFERENCES: Bureau letter - 2/12/51
Bureau telephone call to WFO - 2/14/51, 11:35 AM
WFO Teletype to Bureau - 2/15/51

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : Mr. Nichols

SUBJECT: JOSEPH ALSOP
ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS
ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: February 8, 1951

Tolson ☒

DeLoach ☒

Clegg ☐

Glavin ☐

Nichols ☐

Rosen ☐

Tracy ☐

Harbo ☐

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☐

Tele. Room ☐

Nease ☐

Gandy ☐

I was advised in the strictest of confidence by

[redacted] who does not want his identity to become known, that on February 2nd, Stewart Alsop called him [redacted]

[redacted] declined to furnish him with any information. [redacted]

[redacted] furnished him such information as was a matter of public record and which was not classified.

[redacted] Alsop asked him for advice as to whether he should go ahead and Alsop was informed that no comment could be made of anything of a speculating nature.

This morning Gordon Dean, in his appearance before the Joint Committee of Atomic Energy, stated that a newspaper columnist, whose name he did not identify, had contacted the Commission late yesterday for advice as to whether they should run a certain column and the Commission told him it should not be printed and the columnist acceded.

The thought was expressed that the Alsops got the information sometime between the morning of February 6 and 5:00 p.m. on February 7, and that if we were still investigating the leak of the previous story that if we could ascertain with whom Alsop had talked that we might very well narrow down the leak. It is also understood that the Alsops are exceedingly cautious and are making the statement that they do not wish to print anything of a restrictive nature because first of all they do not want to do anything to harm our security and secondly they do not want to harm their friends by becoming the subjects of another investigation.

I assured my informant that his identity would not be disclosed.

LBN:gl-mcq

RECORDED

INDEXED

FEB 14 1951

24

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/23/89 BY 28513/08

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b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont *ah*
 FROM : C. E. Hennrich *CH*
 SUBJECT: *0* STEWART ALSOP, et al
 ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: March 5, 1951

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

PURPOSE

To advise you that Supervisor E. S. Sanders has determined through officials of the National Security Council, that document NSC #68 mentioned by the Alsops in an article dated December 22, 1950, cannot be declassified for purposes of prosecution.

BACKGROUND

You will recall that in a memorandum dated February 24, 1951, you were advised that inquiries were being made to determine whether or not National Security Council Directive #68 could be declassified in the event of prosecution of Stewart and Joseph Alsop for publication of classified information in their column "Matter of Fact," which appears in the Washington Post.

In this connection you will recall that on December 22, 1950, the Alsops published an article in which direct reference was made to NSC Directive #68 which is a classified document.

On February 27, 1951, Supervisor E. S. Sanders of the Liaison Section, contacted Mr. Pat Coyne of the National Security Council relative to the possible declassification of this document for purposes of prosecution and was advised that the information which appears in NSC Directive #68 was of such a nature that the document could not be declassified in the interest of national security.

ACTION

There is attached herewith a memorandum to Mr. Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General, advising him of the results of this inquiry, in order that the Department will be in possession of all information relative to the declassification of this document.

100-354477
 Attachment
 WAA: eal

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-23-89 BY 282 *6/10/93*
NSC info pgs 1, 2, 3 remains
Unclassified Dec 27, 10-18-91
100-354477 3/14/93

RECORDED - 134
 INDEXED - 134

MAR 10 1951

HANDLING
 100-354477-115

34

WAA
 100-354477-115

Mr. Peyton Ford
Deputy Attorney General
Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

March 5, 1951

DECLASSIFIED BY 22801108
9-23-89
NSC 7000-3, 2, remains unclassified
Dec 24 10-18-91 9803 PROPER
3-7-98

STEWART, ALSOP;
JOSEPH, ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ESPIONAGE - X

100-354477-115

EX-100
RECORDED - 131

Reference is made to my memorandum of February 21, 1951, and to the report of Special Agent Carl E. Graham dated February 20, 1951, a copy of which was forwarded to you as an enclosure with my memorandum.

You will recall that, in connection with the investigation relative to the publication of material by the Alsop brothers, reference was made to an article dated December 22, 1950, in which the Alsop brothers referred to National Security Council Directive Number 68 in their column "Matter of Fact" which appears in the Washington Post.

For your information inquiries have been made at the National Security Council to determine whether National Security Council Directive Number 68 could be declassified in the event of prosecutive action in this case, and this Bureau has been advised that due to the highly confidential nature of the document declassification would not be possible for purpose of prosecution.

The above is submitted for your information in connection with this investigation.

COMM - FBI
MAR - 6 1951
MAILED 18

WAA:cal

STEWART, JOSEPH
UNKNOWN SUBJECT

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FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

EX-100
RECORDED - 131
MAILED 18
3/10

385
MAR 1 1951

Handwritten signature/initials

Handwritten initials "CWA"

Handwritten initials "WAA"

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: March 6, 1951

FROM : Peyton Ford
Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

JMM:GEM:vb
146-7-5483~~TOP SECRET~~

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Reference is made to your memorandum of February 21, 1951 in the captioned matter wherein you transmitted the report of Special Agent Carl E. Graham, which report reflected the results of an interview had with the Alsop brothers.

It is noted from Agent Graham's report that the Alsop brothers "emphatically" stated they had not seen or read any classified Government documents relating to the atomic bomb and asserted that their policy has been to avoid doing so even when the opportunity may have presented itself. At the same time the subjects refused to answer the question put to them as to whether they had been furnished the information verbally by an official personage.

In this connection your attention is invited to my memorandum to you dated January 3, 1951, wherein it was pointed out that the Alsop brothers in recent weeks have referred on more than one occasion in their columns to a top secret document of the National Security Council commonly identified as NSC 68 and so identified by the Alsops. The report of Special Agent Graham dated January 13, 1951, previously furnished to the Department by you in this matter contains information indicating that this same document, NSC 68, was in the opinion of several people interviewed, a possible source for the information used in the Alsops' articles.

Accordingly, you are requested to reinterview the Alsop brothers specifically regarding their indicated access to NSC 68. Should the subjects reiterate their position that their policy is never to see or read classified Government documents, they should be asked to explain just how they acquired knowledge that a document known as NSC 68 even existed and secondly, the manner in which they obtained information regarding its contents to the extent that they could comment on this secret document in their newspaper column.

It is requested that the reinterview of the Alsop brothers be conducted as soon as possible inasmuch as the President, as you have previously been made aware, is personally interested in the results of this investigation.

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803 RDD/mst
ON 3/19/93 Per DOJ letter 3/5/93

~~TOP SECRET~~

Be certain Alsops are told we are acting at specific direction of [unclear] machinery. 2.

WAT

SAC, Washington Field Office

March 12, 1951

Director, FBI

PERSONAL ATTENTION

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

100-354-477

RECORDED 1107

Attached herewith for your information is a copy of a letter from Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General, to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, dated March 6, 1951, in which the Department sets forth specific information which it desires in connection with the investigation of the Alsop brothers.

You are instructed to conduct this interview in accordance with the Department's request and to advise the Bureau of the results at the earliest possible date. This interview should be handled by either the Special Agent in Charge or the Assistant Special Agent in Charge and a well qualified agent who is thoroughly familiar with the previous investigation conducted in this case.

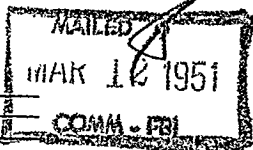
The Alsops should be advised that they are being recontacted at the specific instructions of Peyton Ford, Deputy Attorney General.

This matter should be handled immediately.

Attachment

100-354477

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-26-89 BY SP-2 SJS/ab



olson
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MA: nrc

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4/19/51

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
MAR 12 5 44 PM '51
RECEIVED - BIL & ROOM
MAR 12 6 04 PM '51
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

WAA

at the National Security Council was confined to Admiral Sowers and Mr. Ley and that such knowledge related to the preparation of the announcement by the President on the subject of the Russian atomic explosion in September of 1949.

Records of the National Security Council reflected that two memoranda from Admiral Hillenkoetter, former Director of the CIA, regarding samples of air masses, were received on September 9 and 13, 1949. These memoranda were delivered to the President on the same date by Admiral Sowers. It was further recalled that the memoranda did not go into detail regarding the method of detection of the Soviet A-Bomb to the extent that the Alsops did in their column.

Admiral Sowers recalled that a report was given to the President about the same time which, he believed, contained information along the lines quoted in the Alsops' column. This report was delivered to the President by General Schletter, who has been previously interviewed in connection with this investigation.

It is noted that the details concerning this report are in the possession of your office.

With respect to the information contained in National Security Council Directive No. 63, which is mentioned above, the National Security Council advised that National Security Council Directive No. 63 has a fairly wide distribution within the Executive Branch of the Government and it was further pointed out that National Security Council Directive No. 63 was also sent to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. In connection with the declassification of this document for purposes of prosecution, a representative of the National Security Council advised the Bureau on March 5, 1951, that, in the interest of national security, this document could not be declassified for purposes of prosecution in this case. The Department has been advised of this information relative to declassification of National Security Council Directive No. 63.

In addition to the inquiry conducted by the Bureau at the National Security Council, Senator Brian McMahon was interviewed, relative to possible sources of information available to the Alsops through the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy.

Senator McMahon determined through Mr. William Borden, Executive Director of the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Staff, that information of the type published by the Alsops was available in numerous documents in possession of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy and that the basic document for most of the material would be the semi-annual report to the Joint Committee by the Atomic Energy Commission.

At the same time, Mr. Borden pointed out that the material published by the Alsops, relative to the detection by the Russian A-blast, could have come from outside sources, and noted that he had learned in considerable detail of procedures taken in connection with the detection of an A-blast prior to his connection with the Joint Congressional Committee Staff.

It was further determined that Mr. Harold Bergman and Mr. William Borden were the only two staff members connected with the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy who would be authorized to talk with the Alsop brothers and that neither Borden nor Bergman had talked with them.

The above is for the completion of your files.

With reference to the information set forth in your letter of March 8, 1951, relative to the declassification of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee's summary report dated July 24, 1950, and to the identity of certain documents referred to, but not specifically identified by Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein, you are requested to incorporate all pertinent information relative to the identity and declassification of the documents in question in your report which will be submitted in connection with the re-interview of the Alsops. The Bureau desires that this procedure be followed in order that all pertinent information may be furnished to the Department in report form.

on _____
S _____
In _____
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n _____
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s _____
mt _____
room _____

SAS, Washington Field

March 15, 1951

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X
WFO No. 65-5722

Bourlet March 8, 1951, and Bureau letter of March 12, 1951, relative to the above-captioned subject.

The following information, which has been received at the Bureau in connection with this investigation, is being furnished to your office, in order that files of your office will reflect all information developed in connection with this matter.

In connection with the original request for investigation into the source or sources of information available to the Alsop brothers, the Department advised the Bureau by letter of January 3, 1951, that information had come to the attention of the Department, indicating that the Alsops had previously referred to National Security Council Directive No. 68, which was described as a "top secret" document of the National Security Council. The publication of this information by the Alsops was in addition to that which appeared in their column "Matter of Fact," published in the Washington Post on October 13, 1950, and December 31, 1950. Specific reference to National Security Council Directive No. 68, which has previously come to your attention during the course of this investigation, was made by the Alsops in an article which appeared in the column "Matter of Fact" on December 22, 1950, under the caption "The First Is Now."

Officials of the National Security Council, including Mr. James S. Lay, Jr., Mr. Patrick Coyne and Admiral Sowers, were interviewed by a Bureau representative on January 11, 1951, and the following information was furnished:

An examination of the origins of the Alsop brothers, relative to the detection of the Russian A-Bomb which was published by the Alsops on December 31, 1950, was made by Admiral Sowers and Mr. Lay. It was explained that knowledge of this type of information

RECORDED - 24 MAR 17 1951

HANDLED BY
STAFF
3/15/51

100-354477
WAA:ajv, sd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-29-89 BY 882 BT/afp

COMM - FBI

MAR 16 1951

MAILED 20

All information in this letter from DOD and NSC remain unclassified per letter 3/5/93 980300h 11-93

NSC info per 4/10/89

1951
MAR 22 1951

3 55 PM '51

WAA

SAC, Washington Field Office

March 16, 1951

Director, FBI

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

STEWART ALSOP
JOSEPH ALSOP
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

Reurlet March 8, 1951, and Bulet March 15, 1951, relative to inquiries concerning declassification of the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee Report and the identity of reports previously mentioned by Colonel Sidney S. Rubenstein in this case. Submit all details concerning declassification of material in report form immediately upon receipt of information from Colonel Rubenstein.

100-354477
WAA:MH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-29-88 BY SP8 BTJ/af

RECORDED - 13

MAR 19 1951
80

MAILED 3

MAR 16 1951

COMM - FBI

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

51

W.A.H.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON

FILE NO. 65-5722

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 3/15/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/15/51	REPORT MADE BY HOWARD B. FLETCHER, ASAC HBF:VIM
TITLE STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNKNOWN SUBJECT			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

AGENCY *advised*
REQ. REC'D *4-27-53*
REP'T FORW. *4-28-53*
BY *CWB/5/53*

STEWART ALSOP interviewed 3/15/51; again declined to furnish identity of source or sources of information appearing in news columns prepared by him and his brother; states National Security Council document commonly identified as NSC 68 not seen or read by him or his brother, JOSEPH, they do not have a copy thereof and he declined to furnish their sources making it possible for them to refer to NSC 68 and its contents.

1cc to Peyton Ford
3-16-51
WAA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *9-29-83* BY *2028/SLJ/ag*

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On March 15, 1951, STEWART ALSOP was interviewed by the writer and Special Agent CARL E. GRAHAM at the ALSOPS' office, 2720 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. At the outset of the interview, he was advised that the interview was being conducted at the express direction of Mr. PEYTON FORD, Deputy Attorney General, for the purpose of ascertaining specifically their source or sources concerning National Security Council document identified as NSC 68 which had been referred to in their columns, particularly the column appearing December 22, 1950, bearing the title, "The Time is Now".

Mr. STEWART ALSOP stated this article had been written by his brother, JOSEPH ALSOP, who is not available, he being out of the United States and his return not being expected in less than three months. He stated he did not know his brother's

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>CW Heiny</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		100-354477-121 RECORDED - 63
5 Bureau (100-354477)		MAR 22 1951
2 Washington Field		4-22

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source but he could state positively that no copy of NSC 68 was in their possession; further, he could state positively that neither one of them had read it, that they have a definite policy not to read any official documents. He stated neither he nor his brother would be in a position to furnish the identity of their sources. With a copy of the article, "The Time is Now", in his hand, he stated probably as many as 15 different sources had given them the information contained therein, that what they were trying to do was to advise the public of the policies of the Government and the reasons why these policies were being followed. He stated he was confident that NSC 68 had been referred to in one or more other columns written by them, that he, like his brother JOSEPH, heard of references to NSC 68 but he could not recall the actual columns in which the reference appeared, nor could he recall his source as to the reference to NSC 68.

P E N D I N G

WFO 65-5722

ADMINISTRATIVE

STEWART ALSOP was cordial. Though he made no direct query, it was obvious he was interested in the source of the complaint with reference to this matter. He was advised merely that the investigation was instituted at the direction of the Attorney General.

REFERENCE:

Bureau letters 3/12/51 and 2/27/51
WFO letter to Bureau, 3/8/51

WFO 65-5722

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

Will maintain contact with Colonel SIDNEY S. RUBENSTEIN and obtain from him the identity of certain documents which were referred to but not specified in his original memo to the Bureau on November 7, 1950. In addition, it is also anticipated Colonel RUBENSTEIN will furnish an opinion relative to possible declassification of those documents.

WASHINGTON FROM WASHINGTON FIELD 3/22/51 2 PM

RA DIRECTOR URGENT

STEWART ALSOP; JOSEPH ALSOP; UNSUB; ESPIONAGE X. REBULETS FEBRUARY TWENTY SEVEN AND MARCH SIXTEEN LAST. COL. SIDNEY S. RUBENSTEIN, CONTACTED TODAY, ADVISED HE HAS NOT YET OBTAINED NECESSARY INFORMATION RELATIVE TO IDENTITY OF REPORTS OR DOCUMENTS OR DECLASSIFICATION OF SUCH MATERIAL. HE FURTHER STATED UPON RECEIPT OF NECESSARY INFORMATION BY HIM SAME WILL BE FURNISHED THIS OFFICE IMMEDIATELY. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED AND INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN REPORT FORM UPON RECEIPT.

STEIN

CWSuo

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-20-89 BY 2085 JAG

RECORDED - 140

EX-4

MAR 28 1951

CEG:BR
65-5722

HANDLED BY
STOF

147
66 APR 26 1951

cc: ms. 1000

97246

In the absence of a specific request from you, a reinterview with Joseph Alsop is not contemplated by this Bureau.

It is noted, however, that the report of Assistant Special Agent in Charge Howard W. Fletcher dated "arc" 15, 1951, at Washington, D. C., reflects that Stewart Alsop denied he had access to a copy of National Security Council Directive Number 68 but did advise that the Alsop brothers had probably as many as fifteen different sources from which they had obtained information, and that neither he nor his brother would be in a position to furnish the identities of their sources.

It is suggested that you may desire to further question certain individuals connected with this case before a grand jury.

No further investigation is contemplated by this Bureau in connection with this matter in the absence of a specific request from you.

Enclosure

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Hennrich
 FROM : Mr. Aull
 SUBJECT: STEWART ALSOP;
 JOSEPH ALSOP
 UNKNOWN SUBJECT
 ESPIONAGE - X

DATE: July 5, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9/29/79 BY SP8 BTJ/BJ

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

Purpose

To recommend that this case be closed.

Background

You will recall that an investigation was undertaken in this case on January 5, 1951, upon specific instructions from Deputy Attorney Peyton Ford for the purpose of determining the source or sources of the information of a classified nature, which was published in the column written by the Alsop brothers entitled "Matter of Fact" on October 13, 1950, December 22, 1950, and December 31, 1950.

As you know, these articles dealt with classified information relative to the detection of the Soviet A-blast, a production of Soviet Atomic bombs, and in the case of the article of December 22, 1950, the Alsops made specific reference to National Security Directive No. 68, the mere existence of which is classified.

Extensive investigation was conducted during the months of January, February, and March, 1951 in an effort to determine the source from which the Alsops obtained their information. Following this investigation the Alsops were interviewed by Bureau agents on February 15, 1951, at which time they specifically denied having access to classified documents and declined to discuss the identity of the source or sources of information which they published in their column, "Matter of Fact."

At the request of the Department, additional investigation was conducted and Stewart Alsop was reinterviewed on March 15, 1951, specifically with respect to NSC Directive No. 68. Stewart Alsop declined to furnish the identity of the source or sources of information and commented that he had as many as fifteen different sources from which information had been obtained in connection with the preparation of the article dealing with NSC Directive No. 68. He specifically denied having access to the document, as such.

WAA:brg

RECORDED - 40

JUL 12 1951

EX-141

66 JUL 2 100-85477

WAA

All pertinent information in this investigation has been furnished to the Department and in a letter to the Department dated April 9, 1951, the Bureau advised that no further investigation was contemplated in the absence of a specific request from the Department.

All pertinent information concerning the Alsop brothers has been incorporated in the main case file.

Recommendation

Inasmuch as no request has been received for further investigation from the Department, and since all pertinent investigation in this case has been conducted, it is recommended that this case be closed. In this connection it should be noted that the investigation conducted in this case was limited to individuals who were known to have had access to certain information which was similar to that published by the Alsop brothers. All persons who possibly had access to this information were not interviewed inasmuch as the investigation indicated that the information published by the Alsop brothers could not be attributed to any one single document.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

DATE: October 24, 1951

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

① There is attached hereto a copy of a letter which Joseph Alsop sent Senator Smith lambasting the McCarran Committee and its Counsel, Bob Morris.

Bob Morris tells me that the bulk of the material in Alsop's letter came from I. F. Stone's column in the October 10 issue of the Compass and sent a copy of this to the New York Herald Tribune. I understand they are checking on this at the New York Herald Tribune.

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Laughlin

LBN:CMC

Tolson ✓
Ladd ✓
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Algren
Belmont ✓
Laughlin
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/89 BY SP8BJJ/08

EX-115

RECORDED 185 OCT 30 1951

United States Senate

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Nichols:

See October 10 COMPASS.

X
Bob Morris

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/81 BY 00857

ENCLOSURE

85 100-354477-127

100-354477-127
OCT 30 1951

EX-115

9502

COPY

October 19, 1951

Dear Senator Smith:

After careful reflection, I feel that my answers to your questions at the close of the hearing yesterday may have left a misleading impression. I was reluctant to indulge in personalities; I was deeply grateful for your fair conduct of the hearing; and I perhaps failed to say something I ought to have said for the record. Therefore, in order to avoid future misunderstandings, I say it now; and this letter may be appended to the record of yesterday's hearings, if you so desire.

You asked me, if you recall, to comment on the Subcommittee on Internal Security, and I stated that I did not wish to impugn in any way the motives of the senators on the committee, but regarded the procedure of committee investigation as ill adapted to explore such a complex and delicate field of facts as the committee is now exploring. I stated further that I thought expert persons were required to direct inquiries of this character. When I said this, I had in mind the following facts:

1. According to my information, the committee counsel, Mr. Robert K. Morris, has been shown by public testimony to have participated with Senator McCarthy and others in the pre-planning of the disgusting smear campaign against Senator Tydings in 1950. I am not clear whether Mr. Morris carried on from there, working with John K. Jonkel, who has now gone to jail for his activities in this campaign; but the mere fact that Mr. Morris was apparently acting as a member of Senator McCarthy's staff at the moment when Senator McCarthy met with Senator Butler and his campaign treasurer to sketch out the smear campaign against Senator Tydings, would seem to me to rule out Mr. Morris as an impartial investigator.

2. Mr. Morris was also counsel of the Republican faction of the Tydings investigation committee, prior to the Maryland campaign. While the Tydings hearings were in progress, I wrote Senator Tydings a letter attesting the loyalty of the unfortunate officials involved in China policy who are now under such venomous and ignorant attack. Among other things, I included in this letter that Mr. Vincent participated in Vice President Wallace's report from Kunming to President Roosevelt,

14
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DATE 9-29-89 BY 588 BTJ/af

COPY

and revealed the nature of this report. Mr. Morris evidently knew of this letter of mine to Senator Tydings, which was widely published at the time, since he questioned me about it at the executive hearing over which you presided. If he was indeed aware of the result of Mr. Wallace's mission, and of Mr. Vincent's participation therein; and he nonetheless received and even encouraged Mr. Budenz's testimony; I think he stands indicted of having taken evidence which was demonstrably false. This is all the more shocking, since Mr. Morris's evident intention was to leave Mr. Budenz's original testimony on the record, without elaboration or amplification, until I forced his hand by publishing the real facts about the Wallace mission.

3. I must also record my opinion that whenever he intervened in the examination of Mr. Wallace and myself, Mr. Morris's whole aim appeared to me to be to protect his professional informer, Mr. Budenz, rather than to find out the simple truth. I repeat, I make no charge against any member of the committee. Senators have all the business of legislation weighing on them, and they cannot do the work of investigators. But a procedure which results in henchmen of Senator McCarthy's conducting an inquiry into the loyalty of American citizens, and doing this on the system of omitting from the record, and even actively seeking to exclude from the record, all the most pertinent facts, seems to me an inherently improper procedure. Senators are the unwitting victims of this procedure, just as the men falsely accused are its defenseless victims.

I am sending copies of this letter to Senator Lehman, since his name entered into our colloquy, and to Mr. Morris Himself, since I do not wish to make any comment on his activities except directly to him. Thank you again for your fairness in conducting my hearing yesterday.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH ALSOP

JA:cc
Senator Willis Smith
Subcommittee on Internal Security
Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

SEE REVERSE
SIDE P.R.
CLA
ACTION

Assistant Attorney General
James M. McInerney

Director, FBI

STEWART ALSOP;
JOSEPH ALSOP;
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
ESPIONAGE - X

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

December 7, 1951

293823
Classified by 2885 BTJ
Declassify on: OADR
9-22-89

Reference is made to my letter dated April 9, 1951, to Mr. Peyton Ford, former Deputy Attorney General, in connection with the investigation relative to the above-captioned individuals, and to previous reports in connection with this investigation which were furnished to the Department.

As you know, the investigation involving the Alsop brothers was based in part on an article published by the Alsops on December 31, 1950, in which it was alleged that certain information relative to the long range detection program of the Air Forces was compromised.

In connection with this matter this Bureau has been recently advised by another government agency that an informant, considered by that agency to be reliable, has stated that

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

COMM - FBI
DEC 10 1951
MAILED 24

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Mohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Nease
- Gandy

The above is being furnished for your information and no further action is contemplated by this Bureau in connection with this matter in the absence of a specific request from you. The agency which furnished this information to the Bureau has classified the information set forth herein as "Secret."

100-354477

cc - 117-614

WAA:eme:dmd

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

NOTE: Extensive investigation was conducted by the Bureau in an effort to determine the source through which the (NOTE - CONTINUED PAGE 2)

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 117-614

b7D

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

(U)

NOTE:

Alsop brothers obtained information concerning the long range detection program of the Air Force, as well as information relative to atomic bomb stockpiles. By letter dated April 9, 1951, to Peyton Ford, the Bureau advised that no further investigation was contemplated in this matter in the absence of a request from the Department and it was suggested that the Department might desire to question certain individuals in the case before a Grand Jury.

~~SECRET~~ (U)

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

~~SECRET~~ (U)

DEC 1 5 34 PM '51

REC'D-IC/2-20-51

- 2 -

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through Bureau in which the

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~ (U)

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-24-2014 BY ADG/C98W57B22

No classified DOE information per DOE letter dated February 26, 2014

STEWART ALSOP
JOSEPH ALSOP

~~RESTRICTED DATA~~

An informant, considered to be reliable, whose identity is reflected
in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] reported that he had had

b7D

Informant stated, [REDACTED]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont *AB*
 FROM : V. P. Keay *PKA*
 SUBJECT: STEWART J. O. ALSOP
 Name Check - Secret Service

DATE: December 7, 1951

PURPOSE

To advise that a name check has been received concerning Stewart J. O. Alsop, a newspaperman, who in conjunction with his brother, Joseph Alsop, writes the syndicated column, "Matter of Fact." This request was received from the U. S. Secret Service in connection with a check of the White House news correspondents.

DETAILS

The files of the Bureau reveal that from January to July, 1951, upon the request of Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford, inquiries were made to determine the source or sources of information of a classified nature appearing in newspaper articles written by Joseph and Stewart Alsop on October 13, 1950, December 22, 1950 and December 31, 1950. Joseph and Stewart Alsop were interviewed by Bureau agents in February, 1951, at which time they denied having access to classified documents and declined to discuss the identity of the source or sources of their information. Stewart Alsop was reinterviewed on March 15, 1951. He stated that he had as many as fifteen (15) different sources from which information had been obtained and he specifically denied having access to any original documents. As no further inquiry was requested by the Department, the matter was closed. (100-354477)

No additional derogatory information was revealed in the files concerning Stewart J. O. Alsop.

ACTION

If you approve, it is recommended that no information be transmitted to the U.S. Secret Service and that the notation "No pertinent disloyal data in FBI files" be placed on the name check request.

ADS:nec

SE 47

(See next page)

RECORDED - 70
INDEXED - 70

DEC 28 1951

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
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 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

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ADDENDUM: (December 11, 1951, ^{GSA}JSA:dm)

It is suggested that instead of the notation, "No pertinent disloyal data in FBI files," which is recommended in the action on the previous page as the reply to be given the Secret Service, that we advise Secret Service that with regard to their name check on Stewart J. O. Alsop, no character or applicant type investigation has been made by the FBI.

7
Done
JSM

OK
JL

Mr. A. H. Belmont

December 7, 1951

V. P. Keay

STEWART J. O. ALSOP
Name Check - Secret Service

STEWART ALSOP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/89 BY 2035TJ/ap

PURPOSE

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No additional derogatory information was revealed in the files concerning Stewart J. O. Alsop.

ACTION

If you approve, it is recommended that no information be transmitted to the U.S. Secret Service and that the notation "No pertinent disloyal data in FBI files" be placed on the name check request.

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
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Gandy _____

ADS:nec *nec*

SE 47

(See next page)

5700-354477-

194-4-3146

NOT RECORDED
98 JAN 3 1952

INITIALS OF ORIGINAL

NOV 22 1951
JAN 11 1952

354477-134
ORIGINAL COPY FILED

ADDENDUM: (December 11, 1951, JSA:dm) ^{dm}

It is suggested that instead of the notation, "No pertinent disloyal data in FBI files," which is recommended in the action on the previous page as the reply to be given the Secret Service, that we advise Secret Service that with regard to their name check on Stewart J. O. Alsop, no character or applicant type investigation has been made by the FBI.

(The above is an addendum to the memo from Mr. Keay to Mr. Belmont, dated December 7, 1951, and captioned "Stewart J. O. Alsop, Name Check - Secret Service.")

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Alven _____
Belmont _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

February 1, 1952

cc: Ladd
Mr. Tolson

L. B. Nichols

LAWRENCE R. HAFSTAD
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

The above-mentioned individual is Director of Reactor Development for the Atomic Energy Commission. [redacted] who formerly was on the staff of the Joint Committee of Atomic Energy, advised me that Hafstad's closest friends were Joe and Stewart Alsop.

b6
b7C

cc - Mr. Ladd

LBN:MP

100-354477-
NOT RECORDED
146 FEB 12 1952

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DATE 9/29/87 BY SP8 B7J/08

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61 FEB 25 1952

ORIGINAL FILED IN 116-9726-8

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : A. H. Belmont

DATE: February 4, 1952

SUBJECT: COVERAGE OF WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
FEBRUARY 3, 1952

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
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Glavin	_____
Nichols	_____
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Nease	_____
Gandy	_____

As you know, in his broadcast of Sunday, January 27, 1952, Mr. Winchell announced that due to illness he was taking a leave of absence from all professional activities for at least a month. No reference was made to any substitute. However, it was announced during the past week that Stewart Alsop, Washington news analyst, would take Mr. Winchell's place on Sunday, February 3, 1952.

As of possible interest you are advised that at the outset of the broadcast of February 3, 1952, reference was made to Mr. Winchell's illness and it was described as a virulent virus infection rather than a heart condition as was initially suspected. According to the announcer, Mr. Winchell's condition is improving daily. It was pointed out that this is the first broadcast Mr. Winchell has missed in twenty years.

Mr. Alsop was introduced as the coauthor of the widely syndicated Washington column, "Matter of Fact." He began his talk by stating that "the big behind-the-headline story in Washington is this President Truman has made up his mind not to run again... and unless he changes his mind, which is always possible, Truman will throw his whole weight behind the nomination of Governor Adlai Stevenson, of Illinois." Alsop, following the above statement, discussed several reasons why Mr. Truman did not want to run again. He stated that Mrs. Truman had no desire to spend another four years in the White House; that Truman has been trying hard for about a year to persuade his old friend Fred Vinson to run in his stead, but that Vinson has told Mr. Truman that he does not want to run; President Truman has eliminated from consideration as candidates in his place Senators Estes Kefauver and Paul Douglas, both of whom Truman intensely dislikes. Truman certainly considered backing Senator Robert

DFXC:dmd:vjm

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

EX-25 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/21/84

BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

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MAR 3 1952


Kerr of Oklahoma whom he likes. Alsop followed with several observations on the Presidential political picture.

In a further discussion of national politics Mr. Alsop recalled a headline of last week when Mr. Truman called Senator Joseph McCarthy a liar. In recounting the background of the story Mr. Alsop stated that according to McCarthy a young White House Assistant, David Lloyd, was a dangerous subversive, and that actually McCarthy's charges were based on the fact that an eccentric great aunt of Lloyd's announced about 20 years ago, when she was about seventy, that she had joined the Communist Party. Alsop cited the above incident as an example of the type of politics today and then continued his discussion of politics to the end of the program. Actually, the President and McCarthy argued last week about Phil Leo Nash, also a White House employee. Both Lloyd and Nash have been investigated under the Loyalty Program and you are aware of both cases.

No announcement was made as to Mr. Winchell's replacement for next week or for the future.

ACTION:

The above is for your information. We intend to follow the program to determine the replacements for Mr. Winchell as well as to ascertain when Mr. Winchell will return to the air.



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Belmont
Clegg
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Harbo
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Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
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Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

atter of Fact

We Can Get Jump on McCarthy

By Stewart Alsop

PRESIDENT-ELECT Eisenhower is being urged, by Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge and other advisers, to seize the initiative on the Communist issue at the very outset of his Administration. He is being advised to appoint, as soon as possible, a nonpartisan commission modeled after the Canadian Royal Commission which broke the Canadian spy ring. This commission would have full access to the facts, would study these facts in secret and in detail, and would then issue a sober, nonpolitical report on internal subversion to the President and the country.

One reason Eisenhower is being urged to take this course is that otherwise Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his imitators will seize the initiative. McCarthy's next step is rather obvious. For a couple of years, McCarthy has been loudly demanding the security files on government employees. He will now almost inevitably take the line that Eisenhower, as a good Republican, should accede to this demand which was refused by President Truman.

Eisenhower's choice, as between the proposed nonpartisan commission and a McCarthy old day with the files, is a matter of the utmost importance to the future of the Eisenhower Administration. To understand why, it is necessary to understand what these famous files really are.

ANY INDIVIDUAL who has taken a Government job, particularly in a sensitive agency, is security-checked in great detail by the FBI and also in most cases by the security branch of his own agency. Security agents interview large numbers of people who have known him, or known something about him, in the past.

These people are assured that their identities will be kept secret from the individual under investigation. What they say is included verbatim in the "raw files," which are what McCarthy wants to get his hands on.

Often the security agents collect some information which is based on personal enmity, or sheer malice, or simple stupidity. In the raw files of one able Government employee, for example, a source is quoted as describing him as a dangerous radical. Subsequent investigation revealed that this charge was based on the fact that the employee, a Vermonter, had actively supported Vermont's liberal Republican Senator, George Aiken.

A woman employee was recently asked to answer a similar charge of radicalism. It

turned out that a former pupil had testified that she was "immature" in her 20s and "too sympathetic to new ideas." It is no fault of the security agents that many reports of radicalism or subversion turn out to be utterly false. It is their job simply to report what they are told; as FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover has often said, it is no business of the FBI to interpret or assess the information it collects.

YET IT IS EASY to see what use McCarthy and his imitators could make of material from the raw files. One can almost hear McCarthy—"I have in my hand an official report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation," and so on. He would use the raw files to "prove" what he has conspicuously failed to prove heretofore—that the American Government is crawling with spies.

If McCarthy is given a free hand with the files, he will certainly have a stick with which to beat the dead horse of the Truman Administration, but he will also undermine the Eisenhower Administration in the process. He can do this in three ways.

First, as Eisenhower has said, he wants and needs really able public servants in all echelons of the Government. But, despite McCarthy's kind words about John Foster Dulles, good men are going to hesitate to serve in the State Department, for example, which is McCarthy's favorite target when any personal enemy or malicious tale-bearer can blacken their names in perfect safety via McCarthy.

Second, political use of the raw files will undermine internal security procedures. That is why J. Edgar Hoover has consistently opposed opening the files. Finally, the surrender to McCarthy of a vital executive prerogative in the matter of the files of the executive branch would be taken as a green light for McCarthy and all his imitators. The confidence of the country in the integrity and loyalty of Government servants, already badly shaken, would then soon be destroyed in the McCarthy circus which would ensue.

The nonpartisan commission proposed by Lodge and others would be designed to restore confidence in the Government. It is not, of course, a new idea. The same thing was proposed to Truman, and Truman's rejection of the idea was a tremendous bonanza for McCarthy. Eisenhower is certainly well aware that McCarthy is no more his friend than he was Truman's friend, and being the kind of man he is, Eisenhower is not likely to repeat Truman's mistake.

*It is no
guarantee
that
he will
for our*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-29-89

Times-Herald

Wash. Post

Wash. News

Wash. Star

N.Y. Herald Tribur

N.Y. Mirror

N.Y. Compass

Date: Nov. 23

100-354477-133X
NOV 22 1961
RECORDED - 75
JAN 25 1971
FBI FILES

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD *AB*
 FROM : A. H. BELMONT *AB*
 SUBJECT: JOHN DE KOVEN ALSOP

DATE: March 30, 1953

G.I.R. 9
V.K.I. 1

Tolson	
Ladd	
Clegg	
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Nichols	
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Nease	
Gandy	

Joseph H. K...

In the column "Matter of Fact," by Joseph and Stewart Alsop, which appeared in the "Washington Post" on March 27, 1953, the Alsops discussed, among other things, an investigation which had been conducted concerning their brother, John de Koven Alsop. This investigation had been conducted several years ago and because of reports submitted by "two Government security agents" John Alsop, "on security grounds," had been refused a "temporary reserve civilian status in intelligence." The Director noted: "Did we have anything to do with the John de Koven Alsop case? H."

The answer to the Director's inquiry is no. Bureau files reflect that John Alsop has never been investigated by this Bureau and no information is contained therein concerning the investigation mentioned in the Alsops' column. The only identifiable references to John de Koven Alsop are made to him as a brother of Joseph Wright Alsop, Jr. He was interviewed in August, 1942, when the Bureau was conducting inquiries concerning Joseph Wright Alsop, Jr., a returning passenger aboard the S. S. Gripsholm.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

ENCL

DJS:lce

100-354477-133X1

94-4-3146-71

INDEXED-180

APR 1 1953

(One locate, 26-148418-18, was outstanding as of the time of dictation.)

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 DATE 9/29/88 BY 883573/88

APR 30 1953

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Matter Of Fact By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

Those Security Files

THE STRANGE case of Charles E. Bohlen has highlighted several ugly things about the American Government. One of these is the kind of stuff that gets into Government security files.

Senator Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) hastily lied his way out of this side of his case at the last moment, declaring that he had never opposed Bohlen's confirmation as Ambassador to Moscow on security grounds. Only a few days earlier, when asked if he regarded Bohlen as a security risk, McCarthy characteristically declared "That's putting it too weak."

McCarthy further hinted that he had heard all about the Bohlen security file from his friend, the new State Department security officer, R. W. Scott McLeod. What the Senator says must always be doubted. Yet it seems to be established that McLeod was genuinely guilty, in this instance, of leaking some sort of poisonous story to McCarthy.

Senator Taft (R-Ohio) has now supplied the appropriate commentary on the Bohlen security file. One of the very few items unfavorable to Bohlen was a letter from a State Department stenographer who claimed that she had felt her "sixth sense" sending out alarm signals on the one brief occasion when she had taken dictation from Bohlen.

Far from being inserted in a high officer's security file, this sort of sick-minded poison pen letter ought to have caused a security investigation of the writer. But as these reporters happen to be able to testify, the method of compiling security files can be a bit odd, at times.

THESE reporters have a brother, John de Koven Alsop by name, who seems to them as good a security risk as you could wish. In wartime he was an OSS parachutist, jumping behind the enemy lines in both France and China. In China, he led an anti-Communist, anti-Japanese guerilla group and had a price put on the head of "the huge American with the mustache" by both sets of enemies.

In peacetime he is a Connecticut Republican—he served as vice chairman of the Connecticut Eisenhower movement before the last Republican Convention. He was already a Republican member of the Con-

necticut Legislature when he agreed to apply for a temporary reserve civilian status in intelligence work, some years ago.

The application was refused, on security grounds. With great difficulty, the reasons were ascertained. They consisted of reports by two Government security agents. The first agent had not got the name quite right. He had first invented a new personality, "John de Koven." He had then included, under "derogatory information," the claim that his nonexistent citizen was "probably the brother or close relative" of another De Koven who had, it seems, been a member of Henry A. Wallace's Progressive Party.

The second agent had at least got the name right. As his derogatory information he noted accurately that John de Koven Alsop was "probably the brother or close relative" of Joseph and Stewart Alsop. He added darkly that Joseph and Stewart Alsop were listed in the files of the House un-American Activities Committee, as the authors of a Saturday Evening Post article, "Will the CIO Kick the Commies Out?" All the second agent omitted was the not altogether meaningless fact that this was a profoundly anti-Communist article. The House Committee was using it as helpful source material on the Communist danger in the labor movement.

BY SHAMELESS influence, brother John was cleared. By the same method, one of these reporters narrowly escaped detention on the Gripsholm, when checked for security on his return from a Japanese prison camp. He was sternly accused of having joined the British army. Sharp suspicions were aroused by his bewildered insistence that he had been a member of Gen. C. L. Channault's "Flying Tigers," which were markedly non-British. Actually, his brother and present partner had indeed joined a British infantry regiment, having been repeatedly rejected by all the American services on medical grounds, but this fact had not filtered through to the Japanese prison camp.

The day was barely saved, and the suspected one permitted to set foot on his native shores, by the intervention of a highly placed friend. Apparently a special Government

agent had found it impossible to distinguish between two citizens of the same surname, in the extremely small town of Avon, Conn.

Two such incidents in a single family at least suggest that the existing security system is not foolproof. The letter from the stenographer with the "sixth sense" further suggests that in some respects the system is plain foolish. The FBI cannot properly be blamed. It does not do the whole job—it had no part in brother John's case—and it is ridiculously overburdened as a result of security-mania. Yet it is in order to consider some sensible reform of the security system. And it is certainly not in order to hand over raw security files to people like Senator McCarthy, or to anyone who will leak to him either.

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Tolson ☒
Ladd ☒
Nichols ☒
Belmont ☒
Clegg ☒
Glavin ☒
Harbo ☒
Rosen ☒
Tracy ☒
Gearty ☒
Mohr ☒
Winterrowd ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holloman ☒
Sizoo ☒
Miss Gandy ☒

*Did we have any-
thing to do with the
John de Koven Al-
sop case? - ENCLOSURE*

100-354477-133X1

1944-11-11

13 APR 14 1953

Times-Herald ☐
Wash. Post ☒
Wash. News ☐
Wash. Star ☐
N.Y. Herald Tribune ☐
N.Y. Mirror ☐

Date:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-29-89 BY 2082/STJ

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100-354477-138, 139, 144, 141, 112, 143, 144, 145, 146, ✓

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5/22/53

65-61000-14X, 14X1, 14X2, 38X, 93X, 13X, 113X, 122X, 124X

5/22/53

SEP 24 1953

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-29-89 BY 2058 (S) JLO

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~ (U)

cc - Mr. Belmont

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

Director, FBI

JOSEPH ALSOP;
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~Classified by ~~22351308~~ (U)
Declassify on: OADR 9-29-89
293823SEE REVERSE
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CLASSIFICATION
ACTION 1953

June 12, 1953

The Atomic Energy Commission, in a communication dated June 6, 1953, classified Secret Security Information, (U) advised that Stewart Alsop at approximately 5:00 P.M., on June 4, 1953, telephonically requested clearance for a proposed article. The Atomic Energy Commission advised that the statements contained in Alsop's proposed article appeared to be based on an unauthorized disclosure of information. X-10 (U)

There is attached a copy of the proposed article by Stewart Alsop which is identified as Attachment I, together with a copy of the rewritten article identified as Attachment II. The Atomic Energy Commission stated that Stewart Alsop had obtained a "no objection" from the Atomic Energy Commission's Office of Classification on the rewritten article which Alsop indicated would be published.

The Atomic Energy Commission stated that a top secret film on the 1952 Eniwetok Tests containing documentation of the testing of a thermonuclear device, including scenes similar to those described in Attachment I had been shown to top level officials of the Department of Defense, both civilian and military, to key members of the Atomic Energy Commission, and to certain other high-ranking Government officials. The Atomic Energy Commission stated that approximately eight showings of this film had been made prior to the inquiry by Stewart Alsop. The Atomic Energy Commission stated also that a record was maintained of persons attending the showing of the film. Information contained in the proposed article is similar to previous data which has appeared in the press. Alsop by identifying the information with the showing of an official film on the Eniwetok Tests could not be regarded as being speculative according to the Atomic Energy Commission. X-10 (U)

cc - 62-98194
KWD:eme~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~ (U)

COMM - FBI

JUN 12 1953

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FILED 1953

JUN 12 1953

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The Atomic Energy Commission also stated that the unauthorized disclosure of information appearing in the top secret film would be considered security information affecting the national defense. ~~S~~ (S)(U)

The Atomic Energy Commission did not indicate whether or not the classified information possibly disclosed would be declassified for the purposes of prosecution in the event a violation was found to exist. It is noted, however, in previous instances involving a leakage of similar classified information that the Atomic Energy Commission has stated that such a determination would have to be made on a high policy-making level after all facts had been determined. Concerning this matter, your attention is called to previous correspondence under the caption "Leakage of Classified Information Through Newspaper Columnists, Espionage - X." Reference is also made to information previously furnished to the Criminal Division under the caption "Joseph Alsop; Stewart Alsop, Unknown Subject, (Columns of May 5 and June 18, 1952), Espionage - X."

You are requested to advise whether an investigation is desired in connection with this matter.

100-354477 ✓

Attachment

~~(U)~~

- 2 -

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

100-354477

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

DECLASSIFIED BY

#1 Underscore

9/29/96
SP4BPA/ment

Date: June 30, 1953

To: Captain John A. Waters
Director of Security
Atomic Energy Commission
Room 805B
333 Third Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPH ALSOP;
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT

Reference is made to your letter dated June 6, 1953, concerning the possible unauthorized disclosure of information appearing in a top secret film on the 1952 Eniwetok Tests.

The Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, in a memorandum dated June 23, 1953, requested that a preliminary inquiry in connection with this matter be made.

The Criminal Division requested that we ascertain whether the classified information disclosed would be declassified by the Atomic Energy Commission in the event of future prosecution. We would appreciate your advice regarding the declassification of the information for prosecution in accordance with the request of the Criminal Division.

You will be advised of the pertinent developments in connection with this inquiry.

LBI

cc - 1 - Washington Field (For Info) (Under separate c)

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cc - 62-98194

SECURITY INFORMATION

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

The investigation must be given preferred attention and a report should be submitted within two weeks after the receipt of this communication reflecting the results of your inquiry. The Bureau should be kept informed of any important developments.

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~~SECRET~~ (U)SEE REVERSE
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ACTION

SAC, Washington Field

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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OTHERWISE

June 30, 1953

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Director, FBI (100-354477)
100-354477-149JOSEPH ALSOP;
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X
ATOMIC ENERGY ACTClassified by ~~223813100~~
Declassify on: OADR
223823

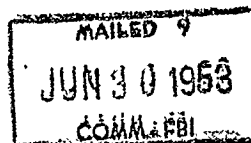
The Atomic Energy Commission, in a communication dated June 6, 1953, classified Secret Security Information, advised that Stewart Alsop telephonically contacted the Commission at 5:00 P.M., on June 4, 1953, for the purpose of requesting clearance for a proposed article. The Atomic Energy Commission advised that the statements contained in the proposed article appeared to be based on an unauthorized disclosure of information.

A copy of the proposed article by Stewart Alsop, identified as Attachment I, together with a copy of the rewritten article identified as Attachment II is attached for your information. The Atomic Energy Commission stated that there had been no objection on the part of the Atomic Energy Commission's Office of Classification regarding the rewritten article.

With regard to Attachment I, the Atomic Energy Commission stated that a top secret film on the 1952 Eniwetok Tests containing documentation of the testing of a thermonuclear device had been shown to top level officials of the Department of Defense, both civilian and military, to key members of the Atomic Energy Commission, and other high-ranking Government officials. The Atomic Energy Commission stated that approximately eight showings of this film had been made prior to the inquiry by Stewart Alsop. According to AEC, similar articles of a speculative nature have appeared in the press, but since Alsop's article identified the information with the showing of an official film, it could not be regarded as speculative and would be considered security information affecting the national defense. The Atomic Energy Commission reported that a record has been maintained reflecting the identity of persons who have attended the showing of the film.

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Attachment

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - SECRET~~ (U)

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100-354477-150

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BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

SEE REVERSE
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CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

Date: June 12, 1953

To: Captain John A. Waters
Director of Security
Atomic Energy Commission
Room 805B
333 Third Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Classified by 2037 SC
Declassify on: OADR (U)

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPH ALSOP;
STEWART ALSOP
ESPIONAGE - X
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT

Reference is made to your letter dated
June 6, 1953, concerning the possible unauthorized dis-
closure of information appearing in a top secret film on
the 1952 Eniwetok Tests to Stewart Alsop. S-1 (S)(U)

The information contained in your communication
has been referred to the Criminal Division of the Department
of Justice.

You will be advised in the event an investigation
is conducted in connection with this matter.

KWD:emes
cc - 62-98194

DATE 6/13/53
E.O. # 12206
CLASSIFICATION
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REASON 1.1(a)(1) 1/3/96

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - SECRET~~ (U)

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